

Sunday Readings

Year B

First Reading - Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, ‘Learn to know the Lord!’ No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

Second Reading - Hebrews 5:7-9

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

Gospel - John 12:20-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, ‘Sir, we should like to see Jesus.’ Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

‘Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life.

If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!’

A voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’

People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, ‘It was an angel speaking to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours. ‘Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.’

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church

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Phone (08) 93101747

Website: bateman.perthcatholic.org.au

E-Mail: bateman@perthcatholic.org.au

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday (9.30am to 3.00pm)



A house of welcome to all and a place of service to all

5th Sunday Lent, Year B

March 17, 2024

Learning to be one with Jesus

How do we speak of God’s commitment to us in Jesus Christ?

In today’s first reading Jeremiah speaks to the Jewish people who, when the Babylonians besieged Jerusalem (597BC), had lost everything they held dear: land, temple, king. Amidst their desolation Jeremiah offers his people hope: a new covenant, a new intimacy between God and his people, a new relationship with God, this one written in their very hearts, ‘deep within their being.’ Their past transformed by God’s forgiveness, God will now be known by the least, as well as the greatest, with no one excluded.

In the second reading, the letter to the Hebrews speaks of God being with Jesus in his death, in order that Jesus might be with us. Whatever happens, Jesus doesn’t give up on us. He doesn’t avoid death but rather, in dying, opens himself to the One who hears his prayer and has the power to save him ‘out of death.’ In following him we gradually begin to realise that now nothing can separate us from the love of God. This is the new covenant written in our own hearts, our very selves.

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Saturday: 6:00 pm Vigil Mass

Sunday: 8:00 am and 10:00 am

Tuesday: 5:30 pm

Wednesday: 9:00 am

Thursday: 9:00 am

Friday: 5:30 pm

RECONCILIATION

Friday: 4:30 pm – 5:15 pm

Saturday: 5:00 pm – 5:45 pm

DEVOTIONS

Eucharistic Adoration:

Wednesday: 9:30am - 11:00am

First Friday : 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Divine Mercy Chaplets

Second Wednesday: 7:30pm

Novena

Saturday: 5:30 pm

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Phong Nguyen
Priest in Residence: Rev. Fr. Anthony Vu
Parish Secretary: Heidy Lu

This God is revealed in the gospel when Jesus asks not to be saved from his forthcoming death, because 'it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour.' It poses the question of who might we give our lives for? Who do we live for? Our children, our families perhaps, anyone else?

We struggle with the thought of losing our lives because we fear it will mean losing everything. Jesus' image of the grain of wheat speaks to our fears and teaches us that, if we learn to let go, if we give fully of ourselves, we will yield 'a rich harvest'. In doing so, the glory of God will be revealed. This is to be the pattern of our lives.

It's not always easy, as Jesus suggests, and as we'll hear in next week's Passion. It's what the lay missionary Jean Donovan came to understand when she was urged to leave the violence of El Salvador in 1980. She refused to leave the children, 'the poor, bruised victims of this insanity.' She didn't do 'the reasonable thing.' Consequently, she and three missionary sisters (Maura Clarke, Ita Ford and Dorothy Kazel) were murdered by government soldiers. They died because they shared their lives with the children and their families.

As we follow Jesus ever more closely, we begin to face our fears, their hold on us loosening so we might live in a bigger world, a bigger story, to which we're all invited to be part. This is what we're doing in the Mass: learning to be at one with Jesus, 'offering our lives with him for the world's sake.' Offer our own lives? If we're for real, in doing so we enter ever more deeply into relationship with God, a relationship written in our own hearts, our very selves, forever.

Damian Coleridge
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PLEASE PRAY FOR

Deaths: Please pray for Gary Raymond Monck, Karen Chan Li Ming, Christine Subashini Chandrasekaran, Patricia Owens who passed away recently.

Anniversaries:

Please pray for Pauline Chappell, Aileen Regan, Eliza Alex, Kevin Richard Baguley, Maria Surjadi, Thomas Gerard Joseph Whitely, Rev Fr. Joseph Tran, Elizabeth Sheehan, Marie Porter and Marion McCleary whose anniversaries occur around this time.

R O S T E R S

FOR 24TH MARCH

Bulletin: Ratinda Oetomo
 Flowers: Justina Voon
 Counters: 1. I Basuki 2. T Basuki 3. T Santoso

	Saturday 6.00pm	Sunday 8.00am	Sunday 10.00am
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Acolytes	D Ng	P Cox	A Louie
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Altar Servers	C Vahala O Vahala E Antony	J Cherian I Lu	M Ludlow-Lees J Reutens G Winaulin
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Extra Ordinary Minister Of Holy Communion	A Ruban L Morzenti C Nonis V Ng A Roque J See S Teo	C Price P Price J Sciorilli M Stephen M Ch'ng M Ch'ng C Craggs	A Faleiro J Louie A Lu F May J Mohan C Poore G Prasetyo
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Catechists	CHILDREN'S LITURGY Michelle Lowth		
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Readers	L Sequeira M Sequeira	C Price P Price	C Plottke J To
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Readers Coordinator: Lilian Sequeira - 9331 5221

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Safeguarding Officers:

- Gerard Joseph (Gerard.safeguarding@gmail.com)
- Derek Choo (Derek.Choo.safeguarding@gmail.com)
- Marguerite Parker (margparkersgo@gmail.com)
- Monica de Rozario (monica.derozario.safeguarding@gmail.com)

MORE CARE - DO YOU NEED HELP OR KNOW SOMEONE WHO DOES?

- ♦ Stephen 0408 167 400 (Coordinator) Christine 0412 887 950 (Transport)
- ♦ Monica 0419 945 005 (Meals)
- ♦ Serina 0420 991 868 (Visiting)
- ♦ Angela 0418 953 992 (Bereavement Support)
- ♦ Parish Office 9310 1747 (General Enquiries)

PARISH NEWS

Please note: In 2024, there will be Masses for the following Solemnities, Holy Week, Octave of Easter, and Octave of Christmas that will fall either on Monday or Saturday:

- Monday 18th March – 9.00am – St Patrick
- Monday 25th March – 9.00am – Monday of Holy Week
- Monday 1st April – 9.00am – Octave of Easter
- Saturday 6th April – 9.00am – Octave of Easter
- Monday 8th April – 9.00am – The Annunciation of the Lord
- Monday 24th June – 9.00am – The Nativity of St John the Baptist.
- Saturday 29th June – 9.00am – St Peter and St Paul



The work of Caritas Australia is only possible with generous supporters and the dedication, passion and tenacity of our local partners who implement the programs. They are the heroes on the ground working tirelessly behind-the-scenes every day to create a better future for their communities.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow, for all future generations.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

APPOINTMENT OF NEW RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

I am pleased to announce the appointment of our new Religious Education Coordinator, Clara Law, who has commenced her first working day in the Parish office last Tuesday.

We welcome Clara and offer our prayerful support as she begins to take up her role in the service to our parish community.

Thank you and God bless. Fr Phong

PARISH EMAIL ADDRESSES

Please be advised of our parish email addresses at St Thomas More Catholic Church, Bateman Parish:

1. Bateman Catholic Parish (Secretary): bateman@perthcatholic.org.au
2. Bateman Planned Giving: pgiving.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au
3. Bateman Pastoral Care: morecare.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au
4. Bateman Catechist: catechist.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au
5. Bateman Safeguarding Officer: sgo.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au
6. Bateman Youth: youth.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au

PARISH NEWS

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Fridays during Lent after the 5.30pm Mass.

- Friday 22nd March 2024 – Led by Readers Group

OVERNIGHT FRIDAY ADORATION - FRIDAY 22ND MARCH 2024

Overnight Adoration has been organised for Friday 22nd March from the end of the Stations of the Cross to 6AM. The Archbishop has asked parishes to pray for vocations. As well as praying for your intentions; Adoration is an opportunity to explore the Lord for more workers in the harvest.

There is a sign up sheet in the foyer for those wishing to participate.

PREPARATION FOR HOLY WEEK & EASTER CELEBRATIONS

Dear Parishioners,

Volunteers are kindly requested to assist with cutting palms on **Friday 22nd March** after Stations of the Cross (around 6.30 pm or so) for our Passion Sunday Masses which will be on the weekend of 23/24 March.

On the weekend of 23rd and 24th March, we will commence Mass with a procession from the Shrine at the Sat 6 pm and Sun 10 am Masses so you are kindly requested to please pick up your palms from the baskets, which will be placed outside the church, and proceed to the Shrine as the church doors will be closed, except for the elderly and those who cannot participate in the procession.

In the spirit of Holy Week, you are also invited to dress in the Liturgical colours as follows:

1. Palm Sunday – Red
2. Holy Thursday – White
3. Good Friday – Red
4. Easter Masses – White/Gold

It is indeed a beautiful sight when the congregation is dressed in alignment to the Liturgical celebrations of Holy Week.

UNDERSTANDING THE OLD TESTAMENT: AN ANCIENT TEXT FOR MODERN TIMES

Day/Date: Wednesdays, 28th February – 20th March 2024

Time: 7:30pm – 8:30pm (4 sessions) at Bateman Parish Hall

Presenter: Mr Joe Tedesco

The Old Testament makes up a very significant part of the Bible. These books contain some of the most renowned stories of Sacred Scripture. The deeper implications and understandings of these stories are often missed. This program will unpack some Old Testament stories and reveal how they lay down the foundation for the Christian faith. Together, we will discover that they are as important today as they have ever been.

Coffee & Tea will be provided during each session. Come and help us build a vibrant and faith-filled community.

CASH COUNTERS

Volunteers are required to assist to count the weekend cash collection on Sunday from 2.00pm – 3.00pm on a 6 to 8 weekly rotation. Please speak to Fr Phong, or contact Natalia at (k3ris@hotmail.com) if you are available to assist.

PARISH NEWS

ST THOMAS MORE PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Sacramental classes for our Parish and other surrounding schools commenced on Wednesday the 7th February 2024. Classes run from 4.00pm until 5.00pm every Wednesday from term 1 to term 4.

Please contact the RE coordinator on 9310 1747 (Tuesdays/Wednesdays 9am-5pm) or email her on catechist.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au at other times, to enrol.

All children (from pre-school age on) from within the Parish boundaries who attend Government schools are warmly welcomed to attend the Religious Education after school program. Special arrangements can be made for High School children and Catholic School children who may not have celebrated their age relevant Sacrament. Please note that Confirmation is a 2-year program.

SACRAMENTAL DATES FOR 2024: ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH, BATEMAN

First Holy Communion: 22nd June 2024 - **Enrolments for this class have now closed.**

Confirmation: 7th /8th September 2024 - **Enrolments close for this class 30th March 2024. The link to enrol can be found on the parish website.**

Reconciliation: 26th October 2024 - **Enrolments close for this class 31st May 2024.**

CONFIRMATION ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN. CONFIRMATION 7TH/8TH SEPTEMBER 2024

All children wishing to make the Sacrament of Confirmation at St Thomas More Parish are now invited to register for the sacrament. Registrations are online. The link is as below and can also be found on the parish website.

registrations close on 30th March 2024. If you are experiencing any difficulty enrolling, please contact the RE/ Sacramental Coordinator on 93101747 Tues/Wed or email her on catechist.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au. You can use the link here to enrol for Confirmation - <https://stthomasmorebateman.formstack.com/forms/enrolment2024>.

SAFEGUARDING INDUCTION FOR ALL CHURCH WORKERS

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has broadened the scope of safeguarding of children to include adults at risk.

This induction provides an overview of the:

- Catholic Safeguarding Standards, Policies and Procedures.
- Understanding Abuse, Grooming and Prevention.
- Reporting of concerns.
- Role of the Safeguarding Officer.
- Collective Responsibility and Care.

ALL church workers (volunteers or paid) are to attend a 1-hour safeguarding induction. A church worker is **anyone** in the Archdiocese in **any role** – paid or voluntary.

Please register for the upcoming session if you haven't attended the induction in the last 3 years.

The upcoming session is as follow:

Date: Wednesday, 10th April 2024

Time: 7-8 pm

Venue: Pater Noster, 460 Marmion Street, Myaree

Registration: <https://safeguarding.perthcatholic.org.au/training/#induction> or phone **9221 7762** to book in.

DIOCESAN NEWS

CFR PRAISE & WORSHIP EVENING - FRIDAY 5TH APRIL 2024

Catholic Faith Renewal (CFR) invites you and your family to a Praise & Worship Evening at Sts John & Paul Church, Willetton, at 7.30pm on Friday 5th Apr 2024. Features Songs of Praise, Mass and Talk by the Rev Fr Nicholas Diedler on "Encountering Christ in the Liturgy". Admission is free. For info, phone Charles 0413 755 799 or Ivan 0428 898 833.

HAWES HERITAGE TRAIL 4 DAY PILGRIMAGE - 9TH - 12TH JUNE 2024 - \$400 PER PERSON

You're invited to participate in a voyage of discovery, based in Geraldton, of the iconic buildings and sites relating to the heritage of Priest/Architect John Cyril Hawes, in the Midwest of Western Australia.

Luxury Coach travel with Tour Guide and Spiritual Director is supplied daily from Geraldton, along with refreshments and lunch.

Pilgrims are responsible for arranging their own transport to and from Geraldton and accommodation in Geraldton. Anawim Journeys (0402 290 827) are offering a Pilgrimage Package which includes Travel and Accommodation. For further information and to reserve your place on the Pilgrimage, visit www.monsignorhawes.com or Phone Gerry 0417 912 997.



2024 EASTER FLYERS!!! 2024 Easter Flyers have been redesigned and are ready for distribution this weekend. There are 5,000 flyers in bundles of 50.

Are your walking shoes ready? Please consider taking several bundles to facilitate quick distribution and mark on the map the areas you are covering.

Please also invite your neighbours and friends to our Easter celebrations.

This is a wonderful opportunity to evangelise the community.

Thank you to the small group who have been involved in updating the flyers!



PILGRIMAGE OF FAITH TO SAINTS AND SHRINES IN EASTERN EUROPE - TUESDAY 1ST TO WEDNESDAY 16TH OCTOBER 2024

Come and listen to a presentation for a 16-day journey (1st to 16th October 2024) faith to Saints and Shrines in Eastern Europe (Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Slovenia and Austria). The pilgrimage includes visiting the UNESCO Plitvice Lakes National Park, Medjugorje, where alleged apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary are continuing, Dubrovnik, Split, Croatia, Marija Bistrica (old Marian shrine of the Black Madonna), Ljubljana, Brezje, Bled Slovenia, Mariazell, Maria Taferl, Melk and Vienna, Austria, renowned throughout the world as a City of Music.

The presentation by Anawim Journeys with Fr. Phong as spiritual advisor is on **Saturday 23rd March 2024 at 10am** in St Thomas Bateman parish hall.

All are welcome.

For Enquiries on Itinerary:

Sheila Mohgan: +61 433 77 1979 / sheila@anawimjourneys.com

Serina Wong: +61 420 991 868 / wongs@iinet.net.au

Veronica Scully: +61 402 290 827 / veronica@anawimjourneys.com

